

REMARKS

In the Office Action, Claims 1, 4-9 and 11-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Publ. No. 2004/0250069 A1 to Kosamo in view of IEEE Standard 802.16-2001.

Claims 1, 6, 13, 17 and 20 are amended. No new matter is introduced.

Claims 2-3 and 10 were previously cancelled. Claims 1, 4-9 and 11-22 are pending in the application.

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested for the following reasons.

In the present application, a method is provided for requesting a service-specific traffic encryption key from a subscriber station to a base station in a data communication system, with the present invention including steps of determining a service type for a traffic encryption key, of generating a Key Request message for requesting a traffic encryption key corresponding to the determined service type, of sending the generated Key Request message to the base station, and of receiving a Key Reply message including the traffic encryption key corresponding to the determined service type from the base station. In particular, each of independent Claims 1, 6, 13, 17 and 20 are amended to clarify that these steps are all performed by a subscriber station *prior to establishing the traffic connection* between the subscriber station and the base station, which none of the cited references, taken alone or in combination, disclose or suggest.

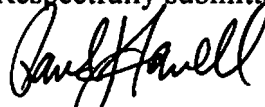
Accordingly, Claims 1, 6, 13, 17 and 20 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Without conceding the patentability *per se*, dependent Claims 4-5, 7-9, 11-12, 14-16, 18, 19, 21 and 22 are allowable in view of their dependence therefrom.

All of the pending claims, i.e. Claims 1, 4-9 and 11-22, are believed to be in condition for allowance.

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Docket No.: 1403-6 PCT US (OPP20061142US)

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, it is requested that the Examiner contact Applicants' attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul J. Farrell", written over a horizontal line.

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